

Remarks/Arguments:

Objections to the Specification

The abstract has been replaced to correct the deficiencies noted by the examiner.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection directed to the following statement on page 12, paragraph 1: “For instance, the document category selection unit 250 divides the number of times one of the plurality of categorized dictionaries 115 has been used by the numbers of times some of the plurality of categorized dictionaries 115 have been used, and obtains the result of this division as the frequency of occurrence of words, phrases and the like in the corresponding category contained in the document.” The ratio described by this statement defines a relative frequency and not necessarily a frequency per unit of time. The numerator of the ratio is the number of times one of the plurality of categorized dictionaries is used; the denominator is the number of times some, i.e., any, of the plurality of categorized dictionaries is used. Accordingly, in this embodiment, the frequency is the ratio of the number of times one particular categorized dictionary is used to the total number of times that any categorized dictionary is used.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection directed to the following statement on page 12, paragraph 1: “If words, phrases and the like in one of the categories occur frequently in the document in comparison with words, phrases and the like in the other categories, the document category selection unit 250 selects this category as the category of the document.” The embodiment described by this statement may uniquely store all words/phrases into one of the categorized dictionaries, including the base dictionary. See page 5, paragraph 2: “That is, words, phrases and the like not belonging to any of the plurality of categories corresponding to the plurality of categorized dictionaries 115b are registered in the categorized dictionary 115a.” Per the statement on page 12, paragraph 1, a document can be categorized into a category in which words, phrases and the like in the document frequently occur, in comparison with words, phrases and the like in the other categories.

Page 14, paragraph 2 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to the following amended statement on page 14, paragraph 2: “The

category-by-category-basis appearance frequency computation unit 420 computes the frequency of appearance of a phrase with respect to each of the plurality of categories on the basis of the frequency of appearance of the phrase in one or more of the plurality of documents to be translated and the categories of the documents. The registration destination category selection unit 430 makes a selection as to in which one of the plurality of categorized dictionaries 115 each phrase should be registered, on the basis of the frequencies of appearance of the phrase in the plurality of categories.” The two sentences of this statement are not in conflict. The first sentence describes how the frequency of appearance of a phrase with respect to each of the plurality of categories is computed; the second sentence describes how those frequencies of appearance are used as the basis for selecting the categorized dictionary in which each phrase should be registered.

A minor typographical error has been corrected on page 15, paragraph 3. Applicants believe that this correction resolves the objection.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection directed to the statements on page 15, paragraph 2 and page 16, paragraph 2. Page 15, paragraph 2 states: “If the phrase does not appear particularly frequently in any one of the categories (S520), registering the pair of the phrase and the translation of the phrase in the categorized dictionary 115a provided as the base dictionary is selected to store the phrase in the category-by-category registration phrase recording file 145a by relating the phrase to the basic category (s535).” Page 16, paragraph 2 states: “a phrase which appears with such a low frequency that the phrase cannot be classified with sufficiently high accuracy with respect to the categories is not registered in the translation dictionary 117”

The cited statements are not in conflict. They describe two different units within the phrase classification unit in an embodiment of the present invention. The phrase classification unit 130 may comprise a registration phrase selection unit 400 and a registration destination selection unit 410. See Fig. 5. The registration destination selection unit may comprise a category-by-category basis appearance frequency computation unit 420 and a registration destination category selection unit 430. See Fig. 5. The first cited statement, on page 15, refers to the registration destination category selection unit 430; the second cited statement, on page 16, refers

to the registration phrase selection unit 400. As explained on page 14 of the specification, if the frequency with which one of the phrases appears in one or a plurality of documents to be translated is lower than a predetermined lower limit value, the registration phrase selection unit 400 selects inhibiting the pair of the phrase and a translation of the phrase from being registered in any one of the plurality of categorized dictionaries. As further explained on page 14, the registration phrase selection unit 400 supplies the registration destination selection unit 410 with information about one or more phrases after removing from this information the information about the phrase selected as one not to be registered in any one of the categorized dictionaries 115. As explained on page 15, the registration destination category selection unit 430 subsequently makes a selection as to in which one of the categorized dictionary 115a and the plurality of categorized dictionaries 115b each phrase should be registered. But the registration destination category selection unit 430 only makes this selection for phrases about which information was received from the registration phrase selection unit 400. The second paragraph on page 16, of which the second cited statement is a part, summarizes the result: A phrase which appears with such a low frequency that the phrase cannot be classified with sufficiently high accuracy with respect to the categories is not registered in the translation dictionary, per the operation of the registration phrase selection unit 400. A phrase that does not appear with such a low frequency that it cannot be classified with sufficiently high accuracy with respect to the categories, but which nevertheless does not appear particularly frequently in any category, is selected for registering in the base dictionary 115a, per the operation of the registration destination category selection unit 430. A phrase appearing frequently in one particular category is selected for registering in the categorized dictionary 115b corresponding to the particular category, per the operation of the registration destination category selection unit 430.

A minor typographical error has been corrected on page 17, expression 2. Applicants believe that this correction resolves the objection.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objection to expression 3 on page 18. $A_{(i,j)}$ refers to entries in the matrix defined by expression 1 via a notation well known to those of skill in the art. $\text{Max}_{i,j}(A_{(i,j)})$ refers to a maximum, also via a notation well known to those of skill in the art.

Applicants have deleted the content from page 30, paragraph 3 to page 35, paragraph 2, which were objected to as duplicated content. Applicants believe that this resolves the objection.

Claims 1-11 remain in this application. Applicants thank Examiner for the acknowledgement of allowable subject matter and respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Claims 12-14 have been withdrawn. Cancellation of claims 12 and 13 moots the objection to “a program product” in those claims and moots the rejection to those claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicants are not conceding that the subject matter encompassed by claims 12-14 is not patentable. Applicants cancel these claims solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the claims and any additional claims in one or more continuation applications.

Respectfully submitted,

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